

Library

RUSHDEN URBAN DISTRICT



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the

Year 1959



P. X. BERMINGHAM, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Together with the Annual Report of the
Chief Public Health Inspector

H. W. ELLIS, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

RUSHDEN URBAN DISTRICT



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the

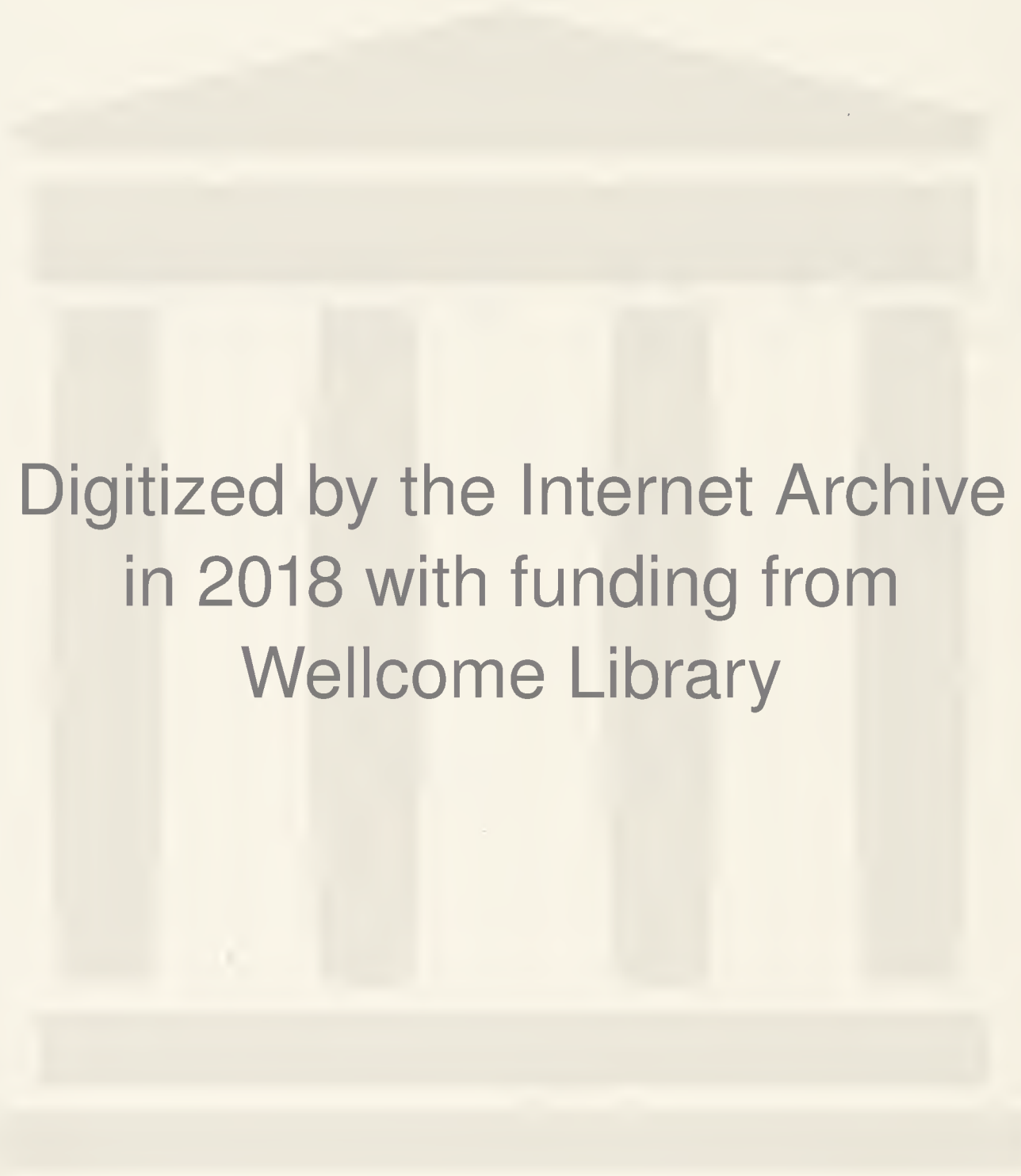
Year 1959



P. X. BERMINGHAM, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O. D.P.H.

Together with the Annual Report of the
Chief Public Health Inspector

H. W. ELLIS, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30048540>

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS, 1959.

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,777
Population 1921 (census)			...	...	...	...	...	13,511
„ 1931	„	...	...	...	...	...	...	14,247
„ 1951	„	...	...	...	...	...	...	16,370
„ 1959	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16,990
Number of separate dwellings occupied 1921 (census)							...	3,076
„ „ „ „ „ 1931	„	...	...				...	3,827
„ „ „ „ „ 1959	...	1/4/1959	...				...	5,942
Rateable Value, 1959	...	1/4/1959	...	...	...	...	...	£203,054
Product of a penny rate, 1959: Estimated	...	31/3/1959	...				...	£731

Live Births.					<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Rate</i>
Legitimate ...	...	...	...	...	247	131	116	
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	19	13	6	
					266	144	122	15.65

Stillbirths.								
Legitimate ...	...	...	...	...	6	4	2	
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	
					6	4	2	0.35

					<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Rate</i>
Deaths (all causes)	...	...	...	...	203	101	102	11.94

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	
Other maternal causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	nil.

Infant Mortality—rate per 1,000 live births :

					<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Rate</i>
Legitimate ...	...	...	...	...	7	1	6	
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	
Total	...	...	...	...	7	1	6	26.31

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	...				39
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...				nil.
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...				nil.
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	...				nil.

Rushden Urban District Council.

Members of the Health and Sanitary Committee :

COUNCILLOR MRS. W. M. LEAN (*Chairman*), COUNCILLORS A. H. BAILEY, D. DICKENS, C. G. FAULKNER, C. FREEMAN, R. R. GRIF-FITHS, MRS. G. MARRIOTT, MRS. A. U. MUXLOW, MRS. D. E. SHRIVE.

COUNCILLOR G. GINNS, J.P. Chairman of the Council, was an *ex-officio* member.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority :

Medical Officer of Health,

P. X. BERMINGHAM, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Also holds appointments of

Medical Officer of Health, Borough of Higham Ferrers.

Medical Officer of Health, Wellingborough Urban District.

Medical Officer of Health, Irthlingborough Urban District.

Medical Officer of Health, Wellingborough Rural District.

School Medical Officer.

Secretary :

MISS J. PEARSON.

Chief Public Health Inspector, Meat Inspector :

H. W. ELLIS, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector :

J. WADE, Certified Meat and Food Inspector, to 28/2/59.

H. G. GASKELL, M.A.P.H.I.

from 1/7/59.

Telephone :

Office : Wellingborough 2446.

Home : Rushden 2810.

Public Health Department,

Swanspool,

Wellingborough.

July, 1960.

To the Chairman and Councillors of the Urban District of Rushden.

MADAM CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my twelfth annual report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the district for the year 1959.

The report is set out in sections as in previous years and in this letter I refer briefly to matters of interest in the different sections.

In Section A the vital statistics for the year are given and it will be seen that the birth rate 15.65 showed an increase on the previous year when it was 14.43 per 1,000 population. A slight upward trend has been noted over the last three years. The death rate 11.94 per 1,000 population was higher than the previous year when it was 10.44. Diseases of the heart and circulatory system again, was the chief cause of death. Table No. 1 in Section H gives a classification of the causes of death and it is interesting to note that coronary disease or angina was the cause of 25 deaths, 14 male and 11 female. Thirty-nine deaths were caused by cancer which is the same number as in the previous year, but there was a considerable fall in the number of deaths due to carcinoma of the lung or bronchus, seven compared with 18 in the previous year. It is interesting to note that the number of male and female deaths from this cause were very similar. Three deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis occurred and is two greater than in the previous year. The infant mortality rate 26.31 per 1,000 live births was considerably higher than the previous year when it was 12.39. The causes of infant deaths will be found in Table No. 3 in Section H and from this table it will also be seen that six of the infant deaths occurred within 28 days of independent existence.

A list of the Health Services available in the district is given in Section B and also an account of the activities of the Rushden Senior Citizens' Committee. The Committee carries out excellent work amongst the old folk of the town and is to be congratulated on the service it renders to our senior citizens.

A description of the sources and treatment of the town's water supply will be found in Section C. Also progress made with regard to the Ditchford Scheme is mentioned. Information will also be found in this section with reference to future plans for enlarging and improving the Council's sewage disposal works.

The building programme for the year and the Council's clearance of unfit properties progress report will be found in Section D.

Section E deals with the inspection and supervision of Food and the results of samples taken during the year.

Prevalence of and control over, infectious and other diseases is the subject of report in Section F. The vaccination against Smallpox figures showed a fall which is regretted but the immunisation figures for Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Poliomyelitis are satisfactory. Now that the age range for poliomyelitis inoculation has been increased up to 40 years it is hoped that adults will avail of the opportunity of receiving this protection. The account of the outbreak of Epidemic Diarrhoea and Vomiting is of interest and this subject requires close observation in the future as the virus would appear to be changing in character.

Statistical tables will be found in Section H and contain interesting information.

This year in my report I have added an extra page for acknowledgments and hope that I have referred to all who have supplied in any way information which I have used in this report.

I should like to thank all the officers of the Council for their assistance and help throughout the year and Miss Pearson for her help in compiling this report and finally the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their continued help and encouragement throughout the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

P. X. BERMINGHAM,

Medical Officer of Health.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I wish to express my thanks to the following for information supplied and contained in this report:

Clerk to the Council

County Medical Officer of Health

Surveyor and Engineer

Chief Public Health Inspector

Treasurer

Engineer to the Higham Ferrers and Rushden Water Board

SECTION A.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area. The Rushden Urban District covers an area of 3,777 acres. The density of population is 4.4 persons per acre and the housing factor is 2.8 persons per house.

Population. The population figure as given by the Registrar General in his returns for 1959 is 16,990 which shows an increase of 230 over the previous year. The natural increase, that is the number of births in excess of deaths was 63.

Deaths. 203 deaths were recorded during the year which gives a death rate of 11.94 of 1,000 of population. This rate was higher than the previous year when it was 10.44. The death rate for England and Wales for 1959 was 11.6. A classification of the causes of death will be found in Table No. 1, Section H. From this it will be seen that the chief cause of death was due to diseases of the heart and circulatory system. These deaths numbered 112 and showed an increase of 21 on the previous year. Again it was noted that deaths from coronary disease and angina amongst males and females approximated. Deaths due to cancer were the same number as in the previous year, 39, but those due to malignant neoplasm of the lung or bronchus showed a considerable fall and were 7 compared with 18 in the previous year. Here again the number of cases in the two sexes approximated and were 4 male and 3 female. Three deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis occurred compared with one in 1958. In the following table a comparison is shown between the death rate for England and Wales, the Administrative County and Rushden for the period 1947 to 1959 :

<i>Year</i>	<i>Rushden</i>				<i>County England & Wales</i>	
	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Fe- male</i>	<i>Recorded Rate</i>	<i>Recorded Rate</i>	<i>Recorded Rate</i>
1947	200	103	97	12.95	12.43	12.00
1948	184	95	89	11.27	11.00	10.80
1949	221	112	109	13.46	12.07	11.70
1950	222	108	114	13.48	12.01	11.60
1951	218	120	98	13.44	12.13	12.50
1952	204	97	98	12.55	11.04	11.3
1953	156	80	76	9.51	11.51	11.4
1954	187	101	86	11.30	11.04	11.3
1955	187	98	89	11.29	11.38	11.7
1956	209	109	100	12.60	11.24	11.7
1957	162	85	77	9.71	10.97	11.5
1958	175	104	71	10.44	11.17	11.7
1959	203	101	102	11.94	*	11.6

Births. 266 live births were registered during the year and this

gives a rate of 15.65 per 1,000 of population compared with 14.43 in the previous year. The rate for England and Wales for 1959 was 16.5. In the following table a comparison is shown between the birth rate for England and Wales, the Administrative County and Rushden over the period 1955 to 1959 :

		Birth Rate, 1955-1959				
		1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Rushden ...	...	13.34	13.32	13.97	14.43	15.65
Administrative County		15.49	16.67	17.03	16.95	*
England and Wales	...	15.0	15.7	16.1	16.4	16.5

Stillbirths. Six stillbirths were recorded which gives a rate of 0.35 per 1,000 population. The rate for the previous year was 0.29.

Illegitimate Births. Nineteen illegitimate births were recorded which gives a rate of 71.42 per 1,000 live births. This is considerably higher than the previous year when the rate was 37.19.

Maternal Mortality. For the fifth year in succession, no deaths were recorded under this heading.

Infant Mortality. Seven infant deaths occurred which gives a rate of 26.31 per 1,000 live births. This is higher than the previous year when the rate was 12.39. The infant mortality rate for England and Wales for 1959 was 22.0. In Table No. 4 in Section H the infant mortality rate dating back to 1899 will be found. In the following table a comparison is shown between the Infant Mortality rate for England and Wales, the Administrative County and Rushden over the last five years:

		Deaths under one year per 1,000 live births.				
		1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Rushden	...	31.67(7)	9.04(2)	21.45(5)	12.39	26.31(7)
Administrative						
County	...	20.79	19.68	22.53	19.75	*
England and						
Wales	...	24.9	23.8	23.0	22.5	22.0

Neonatal Mortality. This sub-division of the infant mortality rate is concerned with deaths within 28 days of independent existence. Six of the seven infant deaths occurred within this period and so the rate for the year was 22.55 per 1,000 live births. This shows an increase on the previous year when it was 12.39. The following table shows the rate per 1,000 live births of infant deaths within 28 days of birth :

		Deaths under one month per 1,000 live births.					
		1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Rushden	...	26.20(6)	13.57(3)	4.52(1)	21.45(5)	12.39(3)	22.55(6)

The Registrar General in his returns for the year 1959 gives a further sub-division of Infant deaths. This concerns deaths within the first week of life. Three infant deaths occurred in this period and this gives a rate of 11.27 per 1,000 live births. The causes of infant deaths will be found in Table No. 3 in Section H.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

The Health Services available for the district are as follows : Laboratory Service—The Public Health Laboratory at Northampton and the laboratories attached to the Kettering General Hospital, with branches at the Park Hospital Wellingborough and the Rushden Memorial Hospital the Hayway Rushden, serve the area.

Ambulance Service—The County Council are responsible for this service and a new ambulance station has recently been opened. The area is well served.

Nursing in the Home and Home Helps—The County Council are responsible for these services and in suitable cases every effort is made to supply home helps. The home help service is of great value especially with regard to the aged and often prevents a breakdown which would otherwise mean their removal to hospital or suitable accommodation.

Diphtheria Antitoxin used to be kept in these offices but under the National Health Service Act, 1946 the Regional Hospital Board is now responsible for the supply of antitoxin which can be obtained from the Northampton General Hospital.

Hospital Accommodation and Outpatient Clinics—The Oxford Regional Hospital Board are responsible for these services and facilities available for the area are as follows :

General Hospitals—Northampton and Kettering.

Wellingborough—Wellingborough Hospital, Gynæcological and children.

Wellingborough Park Hospital—Chronic sick, the aged and old persons in need of care and attention.

Maternity—Maternity block at the Park Hospital.

Tuberculosis—The Rushden House Sanatorium.

Orthopædics—The Manfield Orthopædic Hospital, Northampton.

Infectious Diseases—The Harborough Road Hospital, Northampton.

Rushden is well served with regard to out-patient facilities and the following clinics are held at the Rushden Memorial Hospital, The Hayway, Rushden :

Gynæcological	...	...	1st and 3rd Monday morning 2nd and 4th Tuesday morning
Medical	...	...	1st, 3rd, 4th and 5th Monday afternoon
Surgical	...	...	1st and 3rd Tuesday afternoon 2nd, 4th and 5th Friday morning
E.N.T.	...	...	2nd and 4th Wednesday morning 1st, 3rd and 5th Wednesday afternoon
Eyes	...	...	1st and 3rd Thursday morning
Orthoptist	...	...	Every Thursday morning and afternoon
Urological	...	...	2nd and 4th Wednesday afternoon
Physiotherapy	...	...	Monday afternoons
Psychiatric	...	...	Every Friday afternoon
Skin	...	...	2nd and 4th Saturday morning
Paediatric	...	...	Wednesday mornings

Infant Welfare Centres—This is provided by the County Council and an infant welfare centre is held at the Wesleyan Church rooms, Queen Street on Wednesday afternoons. On the first and third Thursdays of the month at 9.30 a.m. Ante-natal and Post-natal Clinics are held.

National Assistance Act, 1948—Under Section 47 of this Act the Council are responsible for the removal of persons in need of care and attention. One case was removed during the year. My practice is to try and persuade old folk in need of care and attention to go voluntarily to the Park Hospital or other similar hospital and only use Section 47 of the Act as a last resort. Often one finds old persons in a confused state of mind due to lack of proper feeding. In hospital on a protein diet they soon improve.

Rushden Senior Citizens' Goodwill Committee—This Committee continues to carry out its excellent work in the area and, under the Chairmanship of Mr. W. J. A. Peck, the committee has completed another successful year. I am indebted to the Hon. Secretary of this Committee Mr. H. W. Ellis, for forwarding to me minutes of their meetings and activities and give some extracts from their Annual Report.

The Meals on Wheels Service has been extended to deliver 56 meals a week. The Northamptonshire County Council are now allowed by statute to assist this service, the Committee being re-imbursed in full their expenses in connection with the scheme. The W.V.S. on behalf of the Committee, are virtually in charge of the whole service. Five thousand nine hundred and eighty-three meals have been provided since the inception of the service. The Chiropody Service has been used to full advantage and the Committee have had a busy year. The Clinic is now held at Moor Road Schools by arrangement with the County Council.

Over a period of twelve months 151 patients received 591 treatments at the Clinic and 70 patients received 239 visits in their own homes.

One hundred pounds was allocated by the Committee to the Christmas parcels scheme as well as selling some £70 worth of prize draw tickets. The routine work of the ward committees continues to serve the need of the old people of Rushden by way of visiting, selecting the most needy cases for chiropody and the provision of meals. Hospital visits are made on a rota system and £40 per annum has been allocated to provide sweets, cigarettes on visiting days. The Holiday Relief Bureau obtained some six persons willing to take in old people while the rest of the family went on holiday. Two cases were dealt with during the year.

A Christian Youth Club have volunteered to carry out gardening work for old persons.

Some idea of the various activities carried out by the Committee is gained by these extracts from the Annual Report and the town should be proud of the excellent work carried out amongst its old folk by this Committee.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply—The Higham Ferrers and Rushden Water Board are responsible for the supply to the district.

The sources of supply of this board are as follows :

Sywell Reservoir situated in the Wellingborough Rural district covers an area of $68\frac{1}{2}$ acres and has a capacity when full of 236,000,000 gallons. It is fed by springs, rainwater from the catchment area, and two small brooks which enter the reservoir. Treatment consists of filtration, slow sand filters and rapid gravel filtration and then chlorination. A second source of supply is from the gravel wells at Hardwater Crossing Wollaston also in the Wellingborough Rural area. Here water is drawn from shallow wells sunk in the river gravels.

Treatment of water from these wells consists of first mechanical filtration followed by chlorination. Other sources of supply are the Earls Barton gravel well and springs at Grendon.

Ditchford Scheme—In last year's Annual Report it was stated that approval in principal by the Minister to this scheme to supplement the water supply from this source was obtained. The Minister has approved the outline scheme for works, pipe lines and water tower. The works are to include softening of water. During the year the following progress was made, detailed approval to pipe lines and contracts placed for pipes, valves and fittings and tenders requested from pipe laying contractors. Contracts also placed for pumps, softening plants, recording instruments etc. Work is also proceeding on the preparation of details of water tower and extraction works. Contracts are to be let in 1960. The following is the result of a chemical analysis of a sample of water labelled " Wymington Distribution mains " taken on the 5th March, 1960 :

Physical Characters

Very slight deposit, faintly turbid, odourless.

Reaction : P.H. 7.3

<i>The sample contained :</i>								<i>Parts per 100,000</i>
Chloride	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.6
Ammonia (Free and Saline)...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.0010
Ammonia (Albuminoid)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.0116
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hrs. at 37°C...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.1319
Nitrates (expressed as Nitrogen)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.45
Nitrates	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	trace
Poisonous Metals	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	absent
Calcium	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12.4
Magnesium	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.4
Alkalinity (CaCO ₃)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19.7
Hardness: Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30.0
Permanent	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18.0
Temporary	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12.0

Microscopical Examination of Deposit : Mineral matter and some diatoms.

Bacteriological Examination:

Coliform organisms absent in 100 mls.

Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing at 37°C = 3 plus mould.

Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing at 21°C = 10.

INFERENCE

The results obtained on the analysis of this sample indicate a hard water slightly contaminated with organic matter though containing relatively few bacteria.

I am of opinion that this water, as evidenced by the sample, is fit for drinking purposes.

Water Samples. The results of water samples taken by the Board in the Rushden area and sent for bacteriological examination were as follows:

<i>No. of Samples</i>	<i>Very Satisfactory</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Suspicious</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
97	91	4	2	—

<i>Water Supply</i>	<i>Rushden and Higham Ferrers</i>		
Water Supplied	...	...	235,601,000 gallons
Gallons per day	...	...	645,000
Gallons per head per day	...	...	32.2

Domestic Use	...	...	186,647,000 gallons
Gallons per day	...	...	511,000
Gallons per head per day	...		25.5
Trade average	...	...	48,954,000 gallons
Gallons per day	...	...	134,000
Gallons per head per day	...		6.7
No. of Council Houses con- nected	...	...	37
No. of Private Houses con- nected	...	...	62

Piped Water Supply—Approximately 5,837 houses have a piped water supply. 70 are dependent on standpipes and 35 houses in out-lying districts are not connected to the town's mains.

The rainfall over the period 1950 to 1959 was :

		1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Rushden	...	25.31	27.80	25.01	18.64	28.44	18.69	22.83	23.72
Sywell	...	24.88	26.94	22.22	17.10	27.26	17.92	25.23	24.51
				1958	1959				
				26.85	18.4				
				30.54	20.5				

Sewage Disposal, Drainage and Sewerage—A description of the sewage disposal plant was given in last year's annual report when it was stated that the works were overloaded. Chemical analysis of final effluent then showing that suspended solids and the five day B.O.D. figure were slightly in excess of the limits recommended by the Royal Commission on Sewage Disposal. Preliminary approval had been received from the Ministry for alterations and improvements to be carried out at these works. The final scheme is now approved by the Ministry and is to include additional settlement, filtration, humus treatment and sludge drying. Contracts have been placed for the supply of pumps and machinery. Work is proceeding on civil engineering design and it is expected that tenders will be invited later in 1960.

Relief Soil Sewer—Ministry approval was received for a relief sewer from the junction of College St. and Duck St. via Duck St. under Station Rd. via land and gardens to Washbrook Rd. through Spencer Park Farm land and the allotments to the sewage works. This sewer will duplicate the existing system, a joint controlled storm overflow will be sited at the swimming baths taking the place of the existing overflows which are uncontrolled. This will prevent pollution of the brook in this vicinity

which takes place under present conditions. Contract started in April, 1960.

Wellingborough Road Relief Sewer (Surface Water)—Ministry approval of this proposal was received some time ago but for convenience of work this contract has been included in the soil relief sewer scheme contract started April, 1960.

Sanders Lodge Drainage—Agreement was reached regarding drainage of this area and Ministry approval has been received. Contracts have been placed for pumping plant and it is anticipated that civil engineering contracts will be invited in July/August, 1960.

Sewage Disposal :

Total flows	...	...	276,649,822	
Total treated	...	...	229,293,000	
Storm	...	...	47,356,822	
Daily Average	...	...	655,594.5	
Storm	...	...	129,470.7	
Maximum Daily Flow				
Treated	...	...	1,250,000	7th January, 1959
Storm	...	...	1,694,566	20th January, 1959

Disinfections—Following cases of infectious diseases, disinfection of rooms etc., is carried out. Articles of clothing, bedding, etc., associated with such cases can be disinfected at the Council's disinfection station where a steam disinfector is maintained.

Swimming Baths—An open air swimming bath is maintained by the Council. Water is filtered and chlorinated. New strainers were fitted in April, 1959. These proved very effective during the long dry Summer and very little trouble was experienced in keeping the pool clear and clean during the season. Six water samples were taken for bacteriological examination and all were found to be very satisfactory.

Movable Dwellings—No new licences were issued. The caravan site situated off the Bedford Road is maintained in a satisfactory manner.

Public Cleansing—Household refuse is collected weekly. The refuse tip is situated off the Bedford Road. Controlled tipping is carried out. Although every effort is made to keep this area in a satisfactory state, refuse tips are unsightly areas and can give rise to a nuisance in many ways. They are suitable for fly breeding and constantly have to be surveyed for rat infestation. It is not a good area for tipping, being situated off the Bedford Road which is one of the approaches to the town.

In the Urban District there are no satisfactory sites for such a tip and the problem of disposal of household refuse is one that requires consideration in the future.

Atmospheric Pollution—Records of atmospheric pollution occurring in the Town were kept during the year. The following is a full record for the year and are the readings of the Dust deposit gauge and Lead Peroxide Instrument. The Council commenced to keep these records in March 1958 and for comparative purposes I have put in the 1958 figures:

<i>Month</i>	<i>Rainfall</i>		<i>Deposited Matter</i>		<i>Deposited Sulphur</i>	
	<i>Inches</i>		<i>Tons per sq. mile</i>		<i>Milligrammes per</i>	
	1958	1959	1958	1959	<i>100 sq. centimetres</i>	
January ...		3.19		9.27		2.28
February ...		0.06		4.97		1.70
March ...	1.54	2.48	9.44	10.91	0.92	1.31
April ...	0.75	1.81	7.04	7.14	0.72	1.07
May ...	1.97	0.35	7.44	6.24	0.48	0.68
June ...	4.73	0.75	11.64	8.30	0.58	0.59
July ...	2.05	1.62	6.66	8.04	0.49	0.58
August ...	2.44	0.51	6.70	4.74	0.49	0.51
September ...	1.85	0.01	5.70	6.14	0.43	0.61
October ...	1.81	1.26	6.37	8.40	1.25	1.07
November ...	1.54	1.69	6.07	7.34	1.42	1.65
December ...	2.25	3.98	7.00	8.30	1.58	1.50

It is interesting to compare the figures for the two years and they would appear for these two years to have been fairly similar. It is a useful record and in my opinion one that should be considered each year.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

The number of houses built in the Rushden Urban District during the year was as follows :

Number of Council houses built during the year	...	...	18
Number under construction at the end of the year	...	...	30
Number of private houses built during the year	...	...	79
Number of private houses under construction at the end of the year	...	...	30
Total number of Council houses completed to end of 1959 since end of War	...	...	868

Types completed during the year : 16 2 and 3 bedroomed houses
1 1 bedroomed flat
1 2 bedroomed maisonette

Slum Clearance—The Council continued with its five year slum clearance programme and the following houses were dealt with during the year :

Kilburn Place 11 houses
Arrangements made for purchase by agreement 22/6/59.

Individual Unfit Houses :

16 Hayway : Undertaking given to carry out the necessary works to make house fit, 22/6/59.
34 Allen Road : Closing Order 13/5/59.
15 and 17 Bedford Road : Demolition Order 30/9/59.

The progress report with regard to the five year slum clearance programme is as follows :

<i>Areas dealt with</i>	<i>Number of houses</i>			
9 areas 11 orders	...	...	...	100
<i>Individual unfit houses</i>				
Demolition Orders	...	...	...	3
Closing Orders	...	...	...	20
				123 Total

This leaves a balance of 77 houses remaining on the programme and it is hoped to deal with a further 30 houses in 1960.

Housing Applications—The number of applicants for Council houses on 31st December, 1959 was as follows :

	<i>On general Housing list</i>	<i>In rooms</i>	<i>Tenants</i>	<i>Total</i>
(a)	Having completed a waiting period of 12 months	40	102	142
(b)	Under 12 months (60% of nomin- al list)	—	—	55
(c)	On list for bungalows	10	81	91
(d)	Awaiting re-housing from clear- ance areas	—	18	18
				306

This figure shows a fall of six on the previous year. Twenty-one families were re-housed from unfit properties and Clearance areas during the year. The list of applications for bungalows shows an increase of 11. Undoubtedly there is still a great need for this type of accommoda-
tion.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Food Premises. The importance of routine inspections of food premises has been emphasised before. To maintain the necessary high standards of hygiene frequent visits should be carried out in the interests of the health of the community.

Milk Supply. The Urban District Council is responsible for the distribution of milk in its area and 44 samples of milk were taken for examination. The results were as follows :

Milk Samples :

	<i>Taken</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Bad</i>	<i>Test Invalid</i>
	44	35	<i>nil</i>	9
<i>Pasteurised Milk</i>			<i>Passed</i>	<i>Failed</i> <i>Test Invalid</i>
Phosphatase	...	42	—	—
Methylene Blue	...	33	—	9

From this it will be seen that all samples passed the Phosphatase Test which means that the pasteurisation of the milk was satisfactory. No samples failed the Methylene Blue test which test gives an indication with reference to the keeping quality, and cleanliness. Nine tests were invalid due to high overnight temperatures when the samples were taken. The County Council delegated to local authorities in whose areas pasteurisation plants are situated the licensing of these plants. This means constant supervision and sampling must be carried out by the Health Department of these authorities. Once again I should like to draw the attention of the public to their responsibility in returning milk bottles in a clean state. This would help milk traders considerably and assist in the prevention of the use of contaminated bottles. All bottles pass through a bottle washing machine before being used and are under constant observation. Still, when one considers that in some of the bigger dairies 60,000 bottles may pass through such a machine in the course of one day, the possibility of a contaminated bottle getting through always exists, especially if the bottle has contained some liquid or substance which may cling to the inside. Milk bottles should not be used for any other purpose and any person using them for such is doing a disservice to the Community.

Manufacture and Sale of Ice-Cream. There are 69 premises registered for the sale of ice-cream which is the same number as in the previous

year. The type of ice-cream dealt with at these different premises is as follows :

<i>No. of premises</i>	<i>Bulk ice-cream</i>	<i>Cold mix</i>	<i>Pre-packed</i>	<i>Ice lollies</i>
69	1	4	63	1

Thirteen samples of ice cream and one ice lolly were examined during the season and the following were the results :

<i>No. of samples</i>	<i>Grade I</i>	<i>Grade II</i>	<i>Grade III</i>	<i>Grade IV</i>
13	13	—	—	—

Ice Lolly 1—satisfactory.

As will be seen these results are satisfactory.

Meat Inspection. There are two licensed slaughterhouses in the District and at one the number of animals slaughtered and inspected per month would be in the region of 1,200. The other slaughterhouse deals only with a small number of animals and at the time of writing is not being used as a slaughterhouse. During the year the fall in the incidence of Tuberculosis in cattle was very noticeable and undoubtedly the Government's eradication scheme is already showing evidence of success. This is a very satisfactory state of affairs. Full details of the work carried out in this field will be found in the Chief Public Health Inspector's report.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Smallpox. No cases occurred.

Vaccination. The vaccination figures for 1959 were as follows :

	<i>Under 1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2-4</i>	<i>5-14</i>	<i>15 and over</i>	<i>Total</i>
Primary	100	4	8	13	19	144
Re-vaccination	—	—	1	6	33	40
						184

The figures for 1958 were :

Primary	197	7	4	12	23	243
Re-vaccination	—	—	—	5	26	31
						274

These figures show a considerable fall on the numbers vaccinated in the previous year and cannot be considered satisfactory. There were 266 live births registered in 1959 and according to these figures only 100 vaccinations were carried out. The simple statement made above that no cases of Smallpox occurred is one that I hope to be able to repeat *ad infinitum*. Such a state of affairs can only be made possible by the community availing themselves of this form of protection. Another point worth noting is that vaccination in infancy causes little discomfort but primary vaccination in the adult may be accompanied by much discomfort and pain. Judging by the very large numbers of International Vaccination Certificates that are authenticated in these offices during the course of a year this point is well worth noting.

Cerebro Spinal Fever. No cases occurred.

Scarlet Fever. 51 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified during the year compared with seven in the previous year. This is by far the greatest number of cases that has occurred in any one year since I took up my appointment with the Council. It helps to bear out my statement made in last year's annual report in which I said that if a focus of infection were allowed to be set up in a school it is most difficult to prevent other

cases occurring unless home contacts are excluded. Cases of Scarlet Fever occurring in Rushden was the subject of a report submitted by me to the Ministry and the matter was further discussed when a Medical Officer from the Ministry visited me to investigate the matter. It is to be hoped that when the Ministry revise their Memorandum on the Closure of Schools and Exclusion from Schools on account of Infectious Illness they will change their present policy and suggest the exclusion of home contacts of cases of Scarlet Fever.

Diphtheria. The area has been free from this infectious disease for three years when one case occurred.

Diphtheria Prophylaxis. The following number of children were immunised during the year :

			<i>Under</i>							<i>Total</i>	<i>Booster</i>
			1	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14		
Diphtheria	...	...	7	1	1	1	—	6	1	17	23
Combined Diphtheria											
and Pertussis	...	...	162	27	13	7	2	3	—	214	92
Total	...	...	169	28	14	8	2	9	1	231	115
Whooping Cough only			51	7	5	—	—	—	—	63	1

These figures show an increase on the figures recorded for 1958. The following table shows the number of children in the different age groups who had completed a full course of Diphtheria Immunisation at the end of the year :

Number of Children who had completed a full course of Immunisation at any time up to 31 December, 1959								
Age at 31:12:59 i.e. Born in Year ...	<i>Under</i> 1 1959	1 1958	2 1957	3 1956	4 1955	5 to 9 1950-1954	10 to 14 1945-1949	<i>Total</i> <i>under 15</i>
Number Immunised	51	176	184	160	113	689	959	2332

Whooping Cough. Ten cases were notified compared with four cases in the previous year.

With the introduction of the use of Triple Antigen (Diphtheria Tetanus and Pertussis combined) it is recommended to start immunisation at three months and subsequently a single booster dose is given at the

age of two years and five years. This in my opinion should help to prevent attenuated attacks later in childhood.

Measles. 237 cases of measles were notified compared with 192 in the previous year. The majority of cases occurred between March and June and from Table No. 8 in Section H which gives the age incidence of cases it will be seen that the greatest number of cases were in the 10 year old group.

Puerperal Pyrexia. No cases were notified. Two cases were notified in the previous year.

Pneumonia. Thirteen cases were notified compared with ten in the previous year. There were three deaths attributed to this cause compared with six in 1958.

Influenza. Three deaths from Influenza occurred compared with none in the previous year. 1958 was an Influenza year with two epidemics, one early in the year due to Asian type and later in the year an epidemic caused by the common type of virus usual in this Country. This ran into the early months of 1959. The remainder of the year especially after the very fine Summer was fortunately free from this complaint.

Erysipelas. Four cases were notified compared with two in the previous year. One case was removed to hospital.

Poliomyelitis. For the third year in succession no cases of Poliomyelitis occurred. This is very satisfactory, especially when one considers the fact that in previous years poliomyelitis was quite common in the area.

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis. The following inoculations against Poliomyelitis were carried out during the year :

								<i>Third</i>		<i>Third</i>
								<i>injs</i>		<i>injs</i>
<i>Under</i>								<i>injs</i>	<i>15 and</i>	<i>15 and</i>
1	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	<i>Total</i>	<i>0-14</i>	<i>over</i>	<i>over</i>
21	139	28	22	18	108	137	473	1636	1062	623

There is no doubt that the protection afforded by this inoculation is one of the main reasons why the area has been free from this disease and all parents would be well advised to have their children inoculated. The age range has been extended up to 40 years and as will be seen from the figures above a large number of persons over 15 years received inocula-

tions during the year. It must be remembered that poliomyelitis cripples adults too and that crutches will not support a family. I strongly advise adults to avail themselves of this protection against this disease.

Tuberculosis. Three new cases of tuberculosis were notified during the year compared with six in the previous year. One case was Pulmonary Tuberculosis and two Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis. Three deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis occurred compared with one in the previous year. Further information concerning new cases and deaths will be found in Table No. 7 in Section H. The following table shows the number of new cases (all forms) notified over the last 19 years :

1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
21	20	18	17	31	15	18	11	16	18	10	14	12
		1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959					
		18	6	6	13	6	3					

The mortality rate from Tuberculosis for the same period was :
1941-1959

<i>Year</i>	<i>Tuberculosis—all forms</i>			<i>Rate (crude) per</i>	
				<i>1,000 of population</i>	
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Rushden County</i>	
1941	10	4	14	·79	·50
1942	4	4	8	·48	·49
1943	2	3	5	·32	·50
1944	4	7	11	·72	·62
1945	5	1	6	·43	·58
1946	7	3	10	·65	·45
1947	7	2	9	·58	·36
1948	4	2	6	·36	·42
1949	5	4	9	·54	·43
1950	1	2	3	·18	·30
1951	3	1	4	·24	·26
1952	8	2	10	·61	·25
1953	3	—	3	·18	·18
1954	1	—	1	·06	·12
1955	—	—	—	—	·09
1956	1	—	1	·06	·09
1957	—	—	—	—	·06
1958	1	—	1	·05	·08
1959	2	1	3	·17	*

On 31st December, 1959 the number of cases on the Tuberculosis register was as follows :

Total Number 102		<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	...	46	25	71
Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	14	17	31

The number of cases admitted to the Rushden House Sanatorium from the area during the year was 6 and the numbers discharged 7.

The After-Care Committee continues to carry out its excellent work in the area.

Food Poisoning. Six cases were notified compared with one in the previous year.

Dysentery. No cases have been notified for a period of four years.

Typhoid Fever. No cases occurred.

Epidemic Diarrhoea and Vomiting (Winter Vomiting Virus.) In October a widespread epidemic of diarrhoea and vomiting occurred in the area and continued on into the early months of 1960. The epidemic was most probably due to the Winter Vomiting Virus and an attack conferred little immunity and recurrent cases were quite common and even third attacks were reported. The symptoms varied considerably from case to case, some had nausea followed by vomiting and then diarrhoea. Others had no vomiting but profuse diarrhoea. Diarrhoea was far more common than vomiting. Abdominal discomfort was common and some cases had severe abdominal pain. Temperature was not always raised but if so was in the region of 101. Many cases were mild and persons continued at their employment. These cases most probably contributed considerably towards the spread of the infection. The virus most probably was spread by the respiratory tract. Although the illness was not serious and no deaths were attributed to this cause, it was the cause of much inconvenience and loss of many working hours. Details of the epidemic were supplied to the Ministry of Health for their information and I am grateful to the General Practitioners in the area for their co-operation and help with case histories and investigations. All stools examined from cases were negative for bacteria. The return of this particular virus infection should be watched for as the virus would appear to be changing in character and could be of a more serious nature.

SECTION G.

THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937 AND 1948

There are 143 factories on the Register which is two more than in 1958. Twenty-five inspections were made during the year and two written notices served. Further details will be found in Section H, Table No. 10.

There were no complaints received from factories in which mechanical power is not used, concerning cleanliness, ventilation, drainage of floors or overcrowding.

There were 135 outworkers registered on the August list which is 19 more than last year's list. No complaints were received concerning the carrying out of Outwork (S. 110 and 111).

SECTION H.

STATISTICAL TABLES.

TABLE No. 1.

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1959.

<i>Causes of Death</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	2	1	3
2. Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic disease	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
7. Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	—
8. Measles	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	4	1	5
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus... ..	4	3	7
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	4	4
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	4	4
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	8	11	19
15. Leukæmia, aleukæmia	—	1	1
16. Diabetes	2	1	3
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	17	17	34
18. Coronary disease, angina	14	11	25
19. Hypertension with heart disease	2	5	7
20. Other heart disease	15	16	31
21. Other circulatory disease	9	6	15
22. Influenza	2	1	3
23. Pneumonia	2	1	3
24. Bronchitis	10	1	11
25. Other diseases of respiratory system... ..	—	—	—
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	—	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	1	2
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	1	—	1
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	—	—	—
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—
31. Congenital malformations	—	3	3
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	3	12	15
33. Motor vehicle accidents	1	—	1
34. All other accidents	1	—	1
35. Suicide	2	2	4
36. Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—
	101	102	203

TABLE NO. 2.

DEATHS FROM SELECTED CAUSES, 1929-1959.

Year	Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis		Pulmonary Tuberculosis		Cancer		Diseases of Heart and Blood Vessels		Bronchitis, Pneumonia and other Respiratory Diseases	
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
1929	—	—	12	0·85	21	1·49	39	2·76	9	0·64
1930	1	0·08	7	0·49	11	0·78	38	2·71	16	1·14
1931	—	—	10	0·70	17	1·18	47	3·29	23	1·61
1932	1	0·07	10	0·70	10	0·70	48	3·37	18	1·26
1933	2	0·13	14	0·97	20	1·39	53	3·69	9	0·62
1934	1	0·07	10	0·69	22	1·52	81	5·62	9	0·62
1935	6	0·41	5	0·34	16	1·09	51	3·50	12	0·82
1936	3	0·20	9	0·61	18	1·22	66	4·47	12	0·81
1937	—	—	4	0·26	21	1·41	68	4·56	10	0·67
1938	—	—	10	0·66	23	1·52	69	4·57	7	0·46
1939	1	0·06	11	0·70	23	1·46	57	3·63	9	0·57
1940	3	0·17	10	0·60	32	1·92	78	4·69	23	1·38
1941	1	0·06	13	0·52	32	1·81	79	4·48	26	1·47
1942	1	0·06	7	0·43	28	1·72	72	4·42	13	0·80
1943	—	—	5	0·32	32	2·00	51	3·29	20	1·29
1944	4	0·26	7	0·46	22	1·45	101	6·66	22	1·45
1945	2	0·14	4	0·28	24	1·76	101	7·17	9	0·63
1946	3	0·19	7	0·46	29	1·90	106	6·31	18	1·18
1947	1	0·06	8	0·51	15	0·97	115	7·44	17	1·10
1948	—	—	6	0·36	30	1·83	95	5·82	16	0·98
1949	2	0·12	7	0·42	31	1·88	123	7·49	23	1·40
1950	—	—	3	0·18	34	2·06	117	7·10	26	1·57
1951	1	0·06	3	0·18	26	1·60	93	5·73	24	1·47
1952	2	0·12	8	0·49	41	2·52	102	6·27	17	1·04
1953	—	—	3	0·18	28	1·70	85	5·18	16	0·97
1954	—	—	1	0·06	29	1·75	110	6·65	19	1·14
1955	—	—	—	—	28	1·69	108	6·52	18	1·08
1956	—	—	1	0·06	25	1·50	133	8·02	23	1·38
1957	—	—	—	—	34	2·03	84	5·03	16	0·95
1958	—	—	1	0·05	39	2·31	91	5·42	15	0·89
1959	—	—	3	0·17	39	2·29	112	6·59	14	0·82

TABLE No. 3.

CAUSES OF DEATH OF CHILDREN UNDER ONE YEAR—1959.

<i>Causes of Death</i>	<i>Age in weeks</i>					
	—1	—2	—3	—4	5-52	<i>Total</i>
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculous diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—
Convulsions	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis and Pneumonia ...	—	—	—	1	1	2
Enteritis and Diarrhoea ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Malformations ...	—	1	1	—	—	2
Premature Birth	2	—	—	—	—	2
Injury at Birth	—	—	—	—	—	—
Asphyxia and Atelectasis ...	1	—	—	—	—	1
Congenital Debility	—	—	—	—	—	—
Haemolytic Disease	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Causes	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	3	1	1	1	1	7

DEATH AND BIRTH RATES FOR 1899-1958.

Year	Estimated Population mid-year	Net Births		Net Deaths belonging to District			
		No.	Rate per 1,000	Under 1 year		At all Ages	
				No.	Rate per 1,000	No.	Rate per 1,000
1899	12,245	463	37.8	49	105.8	145	11.8
1900	14,359	434	30.2	65	149.0	153	10.6
1901	12,453	424	33.6	46	108.4	123	9.7
1902	12,961	407	31.4	50	122.8	133	10.2
1903	13,337	404	30.2	37	91.5	139	10.4
1904	13,713	387	28.2	46	118.8	162	11.8
1905	14,089	328	23.2	36	109.7	119	8.4
1906	14,190	351	24.7	40	113.9	122	8.5
1907	14,816	315	21.2	25	79.3	131	8.1
1908	15,192	310	20.4	35	112.9	122	8.0
1909	15,817	284	17.9	31	109.1	130	8.2
1910	16,442	278	16.9	20	71.9	128	7.7
1911	13,377	281	21.0	29	103.2	130	9.7
1912	13,658	287	21.0	24	83.6	121	8.8
1913	13,752	237	17.2	19	80.1	118	8.7
1914	13,915	246	17.6	18	73.1	124	8.9
1915	13,787	277	19.9	30	108.3	145	10.5
1916	13,531*	256	17.3	15	58.5	138	10.1
1917	12,315*	200	14.5	12	60.0	123	9.9
	13,728†						
	14,722†						
1918	12,900*	158	12.7	8	43.2	129	10.0
	14,454†						
1919	13,850*	206	14.2	27	131.0	153	11.0
	14,428†						
1920	14,402	328	22.7	24	73.1	133	9.2
1921	13,720	273	19.8	22	80.5	147	10.7
1922	13,740	247	17.9	19	76.9	132	9.6
1923	13,790	243	17.6	12	49.3	131	9.4
1924	13,750	198	14.4	11	55.5	135	9.8
1925	13,780	211	15.3	13	61.6	138	10.0
1926	13,520	208	15.3	6	28.8	131	9.7
1927	13,550	174	12.8	10	57.4	139	10.2
1928	13,650	174	12.0	10	57.4	146	10.6
1929	14,020	174	12.4	9	51.7	127	9.0
1930	14,020	191	13.6	7	36.6	121	8.6
1931	14,280	161	11.3	8	49.7	154	10.8
1932	14,240	170	11.9	10	58.8	142	9.9
1933	14,370	168	11.7	7	47.6	159	11.1
1934	14,410	161	11.2	8	49.7	180	12.5
1935	14,550	176	12.1	15	85.2	155	10.7
1936	14,740	182	12.3	5	27.5	167	11.3
1937	14,890	191	12.9	6	31.4	155	10.4
1938	15,090	192	12.7	6	31.3	160	10.6
1939	15,690*	225	14.2	6	26.7	152	9.7
	15,200†						
1940	16,580	200	12.4	16	77.7	233	14.1
1941	17,600	193	10.9	11	54.1	185	10.5
1942	16,250	251	15.5	6	23.9	163	10.0
1943	15,490	281	18.1	8	28.4	172	11.1
1944	15,140	278	18.4	15	53.9	202	13.3
1945	14,070	282	20.0	14	49.6	176	12.6
1946	15,210	270	17.74	9	33.33	215	14.13
1947	15,440	308	19.94	8	25.97	200	12.95
1948	16,320	283	17.34	9	31.80	184	11.27
1949	16,410	219	13.34	3	13.69	221	13.46
1950	16,460	227	13.79	10	44.05	222	13.48
1951	16,220	199	12.26	1	5.02	218	13.44
1952	16,250	200	12.30	1	5.00	204	12.55
1953	16,390	229	13.97	2	8.73	156	9.51
1954	16,540	229	13.84	7	30.56	187	11.30
1955	16,560	221	13.34	7	31.67	187	11.29
1956	16,580	221	13.32	2	9.04	209	12.60
1957	16,670	233	13.97	5	21.45	162	9.71
1958	16,760	242	14.43	3	12.39	175	10.44
1959	16,990	266	15.65	7	26.31	203	11.94

(*) Estimated population for calculation of Birth Rates.

(†) Estimated population for calculation of Death Rates.

TABLE No. 5.

**COMPARISON OF STILLBIRTHS, ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS
AND MASCULINITY OF BIRTH.
1934-59.**

<i>Year</i>	<i>Stillbirths per 1,000.</i>		<i>Illegitimate births per 1,000 live births.</i>	<i>Male births per 1,000 live female births.</i>
	<i>Population of all ages.</i>	<i>Total births (live and still).</i>		
1934	0.55	47.32	49.69	1038
1935	0.76	58.83	39.77	934
1936	0.27	21.51	54.94	1166
1937	0.27	20.51	26.18	1010
1938	0.26	20.41	52.30	1087
1939	0.51	34.34	48.89	1008
1940	0.42	33.89	25.00	923
1941	0.51	44.54	56.99	1144
1942	0.31	19.54	75.70	1002
1943	0.89	47.45	53.46	1006
1944	0.55	32.05	133.09	1122
1945	0.21	20.83	95.74	1389
1946	0.39	21.73	55.55	1368
1947	0.38	25.47	32.46	1013
1948	0.61	34.12	42.40	1035
1949	0.12	9.04	36.52	1126
1950	0.30	21.55	30.83	1026
1951	0.18	14.85	35.17	809
1952	0.12	9.90	50.00	1000
1953	0.61	41.84	43.66	1385
1954	0.18	12.93	69.86	1063
1955	0.30	22.12	45.24	1046
1956	0.30	22.12	36.19	1302
1957	0.35	20.92	30.04	1099
1958	0.29	20.24	37.19	819
1959	0.35	22.05	71.42	1180

TABLE NO. 6.

MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH.
AGE AND SEX INCIDENCE.

<i>Age Periods</i>			<i>Measles</i>		<i>Whooping Cough</i>	
			<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
— 6 months	...		3	1	1	—
—12 „	...		4	2	1	—
—18 „	...		7	8	—	—
— 2 years	...		5	5	—	—
—2½ „	...		10	13	2	—
— 3 „	...		7	2	—	—
— 4 „	...		16	13	1	—
— 5 „	...		17	14	2	—
—10 „	...		56	52	2	—
—15 „	...		2	1	—	—
15 „+	...		—	1	—	1
ALL AGES	...	...	125	112	9	1
TOTALS	...	...	237		10	

TABLE No. 7.
NEW CASES OF AND DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS, 1959.

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
— 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
— 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—25	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
—35	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—55	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
—65	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65+	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
TOTALS	1	—	—	2	2	1	—	—

TABLE No. 8.
AGE INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.
(Other than Tuberculosis). 1959.

Disease	—1	—2	—3	—4	—5	—10	—15	—20	—35	—45	—65	65+	All Ages	Removed to Hospital	Deaths
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	3	4	2	34	7	1	—	—	—	—	51	—	—
Pneumonia ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	6	13	—	3
Measles ...	10	25	32	29	31	108	1	—	1	—	—	—	237	—	—
Whooping cough	2	—	2	1	2	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	10	—	—
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	1	—
Puerperal pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	—	—	—	1	—	6	—	—
Dysentery ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	2	2	—
TOTALS ...	12	25	38	34	35	148	9	3	1	2	7	6	321		3

TABLE NO. 9.

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.
(Other than Tuberculosis). 1959.

DISEASE	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	TOTALS
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet fever ...	3	1	2	3	4	3	7	4	3	3	8	10	51
Pneumonia ...	1	2	6	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	13
Measles ...	1	17	46	50	75	40	6	1	—	1	—	—	237
Whooping cough	1	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	2	10
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
Puerperal pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	4	—	6
Typhoid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
TOTALS ...	6	20	56	57	80	45	14	5	4	4	14	16	321

TABLE No. 10.

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act,
1937 and 1948, for the year 1959.

PART I OF THE ACT

1.—**Inspections** for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Number of</i>		
		<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written notices</i>	<i>Occupiers prosecuted</i>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	5	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	136	25	2	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	2	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	143	25	2	Nil.

2.—Cases in which **defects** were found

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Number of cases in which defects were found</i>				<i>Number of cases in which pro- secutions were instituted</i>
	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>Referred To H.M. Inspector</i>	<i>By H.M. Inspector</i>	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	1	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	1	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) :					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	1	—	1	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	3	1	—	1	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT
Outwork (Sections 110 and 111)

<i>Nature of Work</i>	<i>Section 110</i>			<i>Section 111</i>		
	<i>No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c)</i>	<i>No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council</i>	<i>No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists</i>	<i>No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises</i>	<i>Notices served</i>	<i>Prosecu- tions</i>
Wearing Apparel— Making, etc.	121	—	—	—	—	—
Cleaning and washing	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paper bags	—	—	—	—	—	—
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper	—	—	—	—	—	—
Stuffed toys... ..	14	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	135	—	—	—	—	—

RUSHDEN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the

Year 1959



H. W. ELLIS, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Public Health Inspector's Department

STAFF, 1959

Chief Public Health Inspector :

H. W. ELLIS, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector :

J. WADE, Cert.S.I.J.B. (*resigned February 28th, 1959*)

H. G. GASKELL, Cert.S.I.J.B. (*commenced July 1st, 1959*)

Student Pupil :

Post Vacant.

Clerk and Shorthand Typist :

Mrs. P. Danczyk.

Outside Staff :

W. West—*Disinfector and General Labourer*

R. Butler—*Rodent Operator*

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Public Health Department,
Council Buildings,
Rushden.

July, 1960.

To The Chairman and Councillors of the Urban District of Rushden

MADAM CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the annual report on the environmental circumstances for the year 1959.

Staffing difficulties were again encountered during the year when Mr. Wade resigned, and the post of Additional Public Health Inspector was vacant from February to July.

The Department and the Council also lost a loyal servant when W. West, the disinfecter, suddenly collapsed and died at work two days prior to Christmas Day.

In Part I of the report it is gratifying to note that the efforts of the Health Committee to provide main sewers for the Wellingborough Road Industrial Site are to be soon realised, and that plans are now being formulated to counter any undesirable development on the Court Estate.

The enforcement of the Clean Air, 1956, Regulations was done by negotiation rather than by pressure, and the results were very satisfactory. Air pollution from industrial sources is not a serious problem in the urban district and the domestic chimneys make a much larger contribution.

Meat inspection was again given priority and one hundred per cent inspection was carried out, although attendance at the abattoir was necessary on Sundays and outside office hours to achieve this end.

I wish to thank the Chairman and members of the Health Committee for their support, Dr. Bermingham for his co-operation, and Mrs. P. Danczyk for her assistance in compiling this report.

I am,

Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

H. W. ELLIS,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

PART I.

GENERAL SANITARY ADMINISTRATION

1. Drainage and Sanitation

Court Estate. The further development of the Court Estate was considered by the Health Committee during the year. Following up the information given in the Annual Report for 1958, the Health Department made a detailed survey and the Surveyor presented a report showing how the new development could be provided with a sewage system. It is intended to deal with this problem when the present commitments of the Surveyor's Department have been met.

Wellingborough Road Industrial Site. After protracted negotiations, the expanding industrial site at Wellingborough Road will be sewered in the near future. As reported in the Medical Officer's section, contracts will be invited for the work in 1960, and it is easy to forget the difficulties with which the Committee have had to deal since the first reference to the problem in my 1953 Report.

Complete records are not available, but it is obvious that the routine testing and inspection of drainage works has increased, mainly due to the new improvement grant scheme.

Two schemes warranted the submission of plans and two combined drainage systems were found defective ; the Surveyor was supplied with the necessary details in order to carry out the work by direct labour under Section 24 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

2. Refuse Collection

The service was satisfactory and the weekly collection regularly maintained for the greater part of the year. Few complaints were received and then only at holiday periods or times when sickness seriously affected the numbers of refuse collectors available. On the whole, the standard is higher than at any time since 1945, and one finds that the better the service given, the higher it is expected to be.

Dustbin Replacement. The records show that dustbin replacement amounted to less than one per cent of the total number in use. This was probably due to the high annual charge of 7/6 which the Council levied under their municipal scheme. The Health Committee, therefore, recommended a reduction of this charge to 5/-, which would operate from April, 1960.

3. Disinfestations and Disinfections

The disinfectant was used to good effect during the year and large numbers of infectious diseases, mainly Scarlet Fever, made quite a demand on the disinfectant's time. Two houses were treated for infestations by bed bugs.

The amount recoverable was below the average, but nevertheless, the work carried out was as much as the previous year.

Disinfection Table

		<i>Articles of Rooms</i>	<i>Articles of Bedding</i>	<i>House- hold Articles</i>	<i>Loads of Rubbish</i>
After Infectious Disease ...	49				
Wellingborough U.D.C. ...		7	46	14	
Wellingborough R.D.C. ...		14			
Newton Road School ...	6				
St. John's School, Apethorpe ...	...	120			
Private requests ...	17	4			
Articles destroyed ...		59	20		2
Disinfestation—vermin ...	4	26	20		
	76	230	86	14	2

Amount recoverable : £18/4/-.

4. Nuisance from Pigeons

It became apparent that a serious nuisance was likely to develop in the centre of the High Street from the roosting of wild and semi-wild pigeons. It was estimated that a flock of approximately seventy strong was using certain buildings in the High Street as roosting and nesting places, and damage was caused to one building by birds fouling and blocking the roof drainage, causing roof water to be discharged into bedrooms and living rooms.

After consultation with a neighbouring authority who had been faced with a similar problem, it was decided to attempt to trap the birds, a system which brought satisfactory results at Wellingborough. The most favourable time for trapping wild pigeons is during the period from February to April when their food is difficult to obtain.

5. Offensive Trades

Complaints were received concerning the nauseating odours coming from an animal by-products factory just beyond the Urban District Council's borders. In conjunction with the officials of the Bedford Rural District Council, several visits were made to these premises, inspections carried out, and suggestions made to remedy the nuisance.

The firm expended a considerable amount of money in attempting to remedy the defect and in August, 1959, the Council were informed that the following works had been carried out.

1. Effluent discharge has been piped to a borehole and all chambers fitted with concrete tops or airtight covers.
2. A further stage has been added to the smell control of the cooking vapours by extractor fans leading to a chlorine chamber.

3. All fat extractors have been piped in and exhaust steam scrubbed with " Alumask ".
4. The capacity of the wet condensers has been enlarged.
5. " Alumask " sprays fitted to end of rendering machine.

In addition, the manufacture of fertiliser has ceased and the site has been generally cleared of all materials in various stages of composting.

6. Trade Effluent

Chamberlain & Co., John Street. A proposal to establish a new type of leather processing at their John Street factory was submitted by Messrs. Chamberlain & Co., Ltd., Higham Ferrers. Several meetings between officials of the Council and the management of the firm were held to discuss the problems arising therefrom, and all evidence pointed to the undesirability of having such a treatment plant in the centre of the town.

The management eventually met a Committee, when the firm agreed to withdraw their application in respect of the John Street premises, but requested the Council to deal with the effluent from a similar works established in Chelveston. The Council provisionally agreed to accept this trade effluent, but it was pointed out by the Ministry of Health that the negotiations could only be pursued in conjunction with the Oundle and Thrapston R.D.C., in whose area the Chelveston plant is situated.

7. Rodent Control

Apart from the routine work of rodent control, the Council's refuse tip and sewage works are still subjected to regular weekly inspections and treatments, and no large infestations have occurred.

A new method of sewer treatment using Warfarin Poison was carried out during the year in two stages, one treatment being carried out in March and the other in September. The result was highly satisfactory and it appeared that large sections of the sewerage systems had been cleared of rats. However, one cannot draw definite conclusions from one treatment, and of course this does not rule out re-infestation by overflows from large colonies of rodents.

The unusually extended warm, dry weather caused a widespread plague of wasps and the Rodent Operator was called upon to deal with more than one hundred wasps' nests, many of them in situations which were a danger, especially to children.

The figures for 1959 are set down below.

		<i>Rats</i>	<i>Mice</i>
Estimated kill ...	...	592	1,272
Bodies picked up	...	144	175

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

The following report for 1959 was submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

	<i>Local Authority</i>	<i>Dwelling Houses</i>	<i>All other (including business premises)</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Agri- cultural</i>
I. Number of properties in Local Authority's District	28	5,843	1,059	6,930	26
II. Number of properties inspected as result of :					
(a) Notification	1	153	15	169	—
(b) Survey	1	342	25	368	1
(c) Otherwise	4	7	10	21	—
III. Total inspections carried out—including re-inspections	10	617	99	726	4
IV. Number of properties inspected found to be infested by :					
(a) Rats { Major	—	—	—	—	—
{ Minor	—	130	13	143	1
(b) Mice	—	33	20	53	—
V. Number of infested properties treated by L.A.	—	163	33	196	1
VI. Total treatments carried out—including re-treatments	—	181	45	226	2

Number of " block " control schemes carried out—5.

8. Clean Air Act, 1956

Following the announcement by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government giving June 1st, 1958, as the date of operation of all those provisions of the Clean Air Act, 1956, which were not already in operation, negotiations were started with two firms where it was considered their particular plants did not meet the requirements of the Act.

By the middle of the year both nuisances were brought under control, one firm finding the remedy in changing over completely to coke fuel, and the other firm by the employing of experts to advise them on such matters.

Complaints are still received from nuisances caused by garden fires and this was exceptionally bad during the summer of 1959. Several visits had to be made outside office hours to deal with smoke complaints in various parts of the town.

9. Cesspool Emptying

The following summary gives an indication of the work carried out during 1959 :

Cesspools emptied within the Urban District ...	299
Cesspools emptied outside the Urban District	9
Total	308

In addition, the machine was loaned to adjoining local authorities for 517 hours.

Because of arrangements made with neighbouring local authorities, the cesspool charges were reviewed and simplified. The subsidised charge of 10/- to ratepayers was retained and the cost per hour when hired out to other local authorities was set at £1, with an extra 5/- per hour to any private hirer. This new method has simplified administration and the rendering of accounts.

PART 2.

SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES

1. Milk and Dairies

There were seven milk purveyors on the register at the end of December, 1959. Seven pasteurised, four tuberculin tested and three sterilised licences were issued under the Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936-49. There are no producer-retailers on the register, no raw milk is sold in the town, and all milk originates from outside sources.

The following table gives details of the sample results month by month over the year. It will be seen that all samples satisfied the prescribed tests and the public can be assured of a safe, clean, milk supply.

Examination of Milk

		<i>Milk Samples</i>				
		<i>No. of samples taken</i>	<i>No. Examined</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Bad</i>	<i>Test Invalid</i>
January	...	5	5	5	—	—
February	...	5	5	5	—	—
March	...	3	3	3	—	—
April	...	—	—	—	—	—
May	...	—	—	—	—	—
June	...	—	—	—	—	—
July	...	5	5	1	—	4
August	...	6	6	1	—	5
September	...	5	5	5	—	—
October	...	5	5	5	—	—
November	...	5	5	5	—	—
December	...	5	5	5	—	—
Total	...	44	44	35	—	9

Pasteurised Milk

<i>Samples Taken</i>	<i>Test</i>	<i>Passed</i>	<i>Failed</i>	<i>Test Invalid</i>
42	Methylene Blue	33	—	9
	Phosphatase	42	—	—

2. Manufacture and Sale of Ice-cream

The ice-cream trade showed only one change during the year, one iced lolly manufacturer going out of business.

The state of the register is as follows :

Cold Mix Manufacturers	...	...	...	4
Sellers of bulk ice-cream	...	...	...	1
Sellers of pre-packed ice-cream	...	...	...	63

Thirteen samples of ice-cream and one iced lolly sample were taken during the year. The ice-cream samples fell into the category of "Grade I" and the iced lolly sample was satisfactory, showing no evidence of bacterial contamination.

Meat and Food Inspection

The number of animals slaughtered and inspected at the Bedford Road abattoir and Strickland's slaughterhouse was 16,910, 881 less than the previous year.

Four-fifths of the meat produced is delivered outside the Urban District and only two butchers, apart from the local Co-operative Society butchers, are supplied from this source. Other traders purchase meat "off the hook", mostly from wholesalers in Northampton. The grant from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food this year amounted to £140.

The C.W.S. continued to be selective in their buying of live animals and this, together with the Government's scheme for prescribing Tuberculin Tested areas, resulted in the decrease of animals found diseased. The incidence of tuberculosis decreased somewhat and it is likely that the improvement will continue, as the prescribed areas are extended to cover the whole of the country.

Diseases other than tuberculosis still accounted for the greater proportion of meat and offal condemned, and there is no doubt there is plenty of scope in the field of animal health to find means of preventing much waste of edible offal.

The Regulations for the hygienic operation of slaughterhouses became operative on the 1st January, 1959, and it was applied to the local abattoir so far as it did not interfere with any constructional work which would be required when the Construction Section of the Regulations came into force. The owners of the abattoir, anticipating the compulsory provision of stunning pens, installed such an appliance at Bedford Road.

Cysticercus Bovis was diagnosed in eleven carcasses which were despatched to the cold stores at Kettering.

It is to be regretted that Regulations covering the staining and sterilisation of meat condemned as unfit and sold as pets' meat were cancelled before this Act could be put into operation. It is to be hoped that the Government will soon see their way clear to re-introduce this legislation.

Thirty-one visits were made to shops, warehouses and stores to inspect various foodstuffs, twelve hundredweights of which was declared unfit for human consumption and was destroyed.

The following tables indicate the extent of the work carried out.

UNSOUND FOOD

Fruit	...	...	...	...	...	...	129 tins
Tomatoes	...	...	...	...	...	...	164 tins
Vegetables	...	...	...	...	...	...	15 tins
Peas	...	...	...	...	...	...	85 tins
Beans	...	...	...	...	...	...	32 tins
Soup	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 tins
Cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	7 tins
Creamed rice	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 tins
Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	29 tins
Spaghetti	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 tin
Fish	...	...	...	...	...	...	59 tins
Meat	...	...	...	...	...	...	104 tins
Sausage	...	...	...	...	...	...	66 lbs.
Ham	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 tins
Rabbits' Livers	...	...	...	...	...	...	1½ lbs.
Liver	...	...	...	...	...	...	3 lbs.
Bacon	...	...	...	...	...	2 cwts.	14 lbs.
Cooked meats	...	...	...	...	...	...	60¾ lbs.
Rice	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 lbs.
Flour	...	...	...	...	...	...	6 lbs.
Lemon pie filling	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 packet

Total weight 12 cwts. 0 qrs. 0 lbs. 12 ozs.

Cysticercus Bovis

<i>No. of animals affected</i>	<i>No. showing head lesions</i>	<i>No. showing heart lesions</i>	<i>No. showing diaphragm lesions</i>	<i>No. affected in other locations</i>
11	11	4	—	—

Number of visits to the Abattoir	...	...	...	...	...	427
Number of casualties admitted	...	...	...	...	...	60

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	<i>Bulls</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Steers</i>	<i>Heifers</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number of animals slaughtered and inspected ...	2	122	1,337	1,350	26	8,938	5,135
TUBERCULOSIS							
1. Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	1	5	—	—	—
2. Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned...	—	16	103	94	—	—	112
TOTAL NUMBER OF ANIMALS AFFECTED WITH TUBERCULOSIS ...	—	16	104	99	—	—	112
3. Percentage of animals inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	—	13.11	7.78	7.33	—	—	2.18
4. General incidence Adult Bovine	7.79%						
OTHER DISEASES							
Specific diseases other than T.B. causing condemnation of the whole carcass							
Emaciation ...	—	1	1	—	—	1	1
Fever-Acute ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Immaturity ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gangrene ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Joint Ill ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mastitis (including septic) ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Moribund ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Peritonitis—septic ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pericarditis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia—including Gangrene ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pyæmia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Septæcaemia ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Swine Erysipelas—Acute ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Uraemia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Metritis—Septic ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arthritis—Septic ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Johnne's Disease ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Oil Contaminated—Imported ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
TOTALS ...	—	2	2	—	—	4	7

Total number of animals slaughtered and inspected ... 16,910

Total number of whole carcasses condemned ... 21

Weight of Meat and Offal Condemned

TUBERCULOSIS					OTHER DISEASES			
	<i>Tons</i>	<i>cwts.</i>	<i>qrs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>cwts.</i>	<i>qrs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>
Carcass Meat ...	2	10	3	9	1	13	2	23
Offal ...	2	17	0	5	13	2	2	17
	5	7	3	14	14	16	1	12

TOTAL WEIGHT ... 20 Tons 4 cwt. 0 qr. 26 lbs.

PART 3.

HOUSING

As a matter of policy the clearance of unfit properties was slowed down during the year and, as a result, only fifteen properties were dealt with under the Housing Acts. Eleven of these were subsequently purchased by agreement.

The Government introduced new legislation covering Standard Grants. Local Authorities are now obliged to make grants to applicants wishing to provide any or all of the five standard amenities where they do not already exist in the property. The scheme in itself is an excellent one, but it is significant that in nearly every case applications received are from owner/occupiers. Tenanted properties still need the attention and inspection of the Public Health Department to ensure that living standards do not fall below a reasonable level.

One owner of twenty properties, some of which were subject to a statutory notice, was asked to consider the modernisation of these properties by means of improvement grants, and after preparing detailed and extensive plans and specifications, finally decided not to proceed with the work and offered the properties to the Council at District Valuer's valuation. The Council did not consider such action to be the solution to the problem, and it is unfortunate that the question of economics prevents the modernisation of such type of premises.

